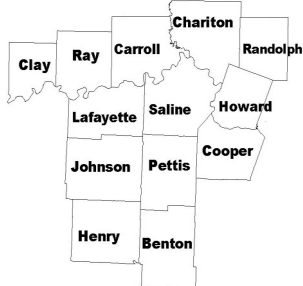




May 2012 Farm Service Agency

Missouri District 4



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Important Deadlines Approaching

Several important program sign-up deadlines are approaching, as well as the annual crop reporting requirement. Sign up for DCP and ACRE programs end on *June 1*. The SURE program, which compensates for 2010 crop year losses, also has a *June 1* sign up deadline. All wheat and small grain planted acreage must be reported by *July 2* and all other crops must be reported by *July 16*. Complete details on each program can be found in this newsletter. Call your local office soon to schedule an appointment. June is right around the corner!



Fewer Newsletters Mailed in the Future

Budget constraints are forcing Missouri FSA offices to sharply reduce the number of newsletters mailed each year. FSA will soon begin distributing newsletters through email to producers who have signed up for eAlerts.

Many of you have already signed up for eAlerts and provided contact information so your local FSA office can text or email you when necessary. However, if you only provided a phone number, or if you haven't signed up at all, ***now may be the time to provide a current email address.*** We realize many of you prefer to receive hard copies in the mail, but that may not be an option soon as FSA needs to control costs.

Newspaper articles and radio announcements will continue to be used, but it is *now* critical for FSA program participants to enroll in eAlerts in order to stay up-to-date with program information.

TO BEGIN RECEIVING eALERTS:

- 1) Stop by your local FSA office to enroll, or
 - 2) Find the email address for each county FSA office you do business with on page 3 and email a specific request to enroll in eAlerts for the email address or phone number you provide. Also include your local phone carrier for all text messaging (AT&T, Verizon, US Cellular, etc). Standard text message charges may apply; please check with your cell phone carrier.
- Please Note: You need to notify each office of your intentions.

FSA eAlerts

DCP/ACRE Enrollment Deadline Approaches

The deadline for enrollment in the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program is **June 1, 2012**. In accordance with the 2008 Farm Bill, this year's payment factor is increased from 83.3% to 85% of base acres.

Producers may still elect the ACRE program for 2012. And remember, if ACRE was elected in a previous year, that election still stands for 2012. Those who have ACRE farms must certify their 2011 production data by **July 16, 2012**.



County Committee Nominations

County Committees are critical to the operations of FSA because they direct the delivery of FSA farm programs at the local level. Committee members a) provide general oversight; b) review and act on appeals from program participants and; c) provide a link between the Agency and local producers.

FSA offices are now accepting nominations for candidates from the Local Administrative Areas (LAA) listed below for each county. The deadline to submit nominations is August 1, 2012. USDA and FSA are committed to increasing participation of all farmers including women, minorities and beginning farmers. You may nominate yourself or someone else as a candidate.

Candidates must:

- be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch
- live or farm in the LAA holding the election
- participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA.

Nomination forms (FSA-669-A's) are available:

- At <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>, scroll down to "Election Materials" and click "2012 Nomination Form"
- By visiting your local FSA office
- By calling your local FSA office and requesting a nomination form be sent to you

Townships Holding Elections in 2012

Benton	White, North Williams (north of Hwy 52)
Carroll	Washington, Hill, Stokes Mound, Hurricane, Fairfield, Leslie, Van Horn
Chariton	Bee Branch, Cockrell, Wayland, Salisbury
Clay	No election in 2012
Cooper	Blackwater, Boonville, Lamine, Saline
Henry	Bethlehem, Deer Creek, Leesville, Osage, Springfield, Tebo, Windsor
Howard	Chariton, Richmond
Johnson	Kingsville, Madison, Centerview, Warrensburg, Montserrat
Lafayette	Dover, Middleton, Davis
Pettis	Blackwater, Heaths Creek, Houstonia, Hughesville, Longwood, LaMonte
Randolph	Silver Creek, Moniteau, Prairie
Ray	Orrick, Camden, South 1/2 of Richmond
Saline	Grand Pass, Marshall, Miami

Nominate and vote! 2012 election timeline



August 1	Nomination period ends
November 5	Ballots mailed to eligible voters
December 3	Last day to return voted ballots to your FSA office
January 1, 2013	Elected committee members take office

Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE)

Sign-up for 2010 crop losses ends June 1, 2012. The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters incurred in crop year 2010. SURE is available to eligible producers on farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties that incurred crop production or quality losses, and includes all crops grown by producers nationwide, except grazed crops. **All Missouri counties either received this designation in 2010 or were contiguous to a designated county.**

FSA will use information from insurance companies to determine eligibility. To be eligible, producers must have at least one crop that suffered a 10 percent production loss. Economically-significant crops must have been insured either under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (FCIA) or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). Contact your local office to see if you qualify.

Remember Hay Net

Producers are encouraged to use Hay Net on the FSA website (<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet>). This online service allows producers with hay and those who need hay to post ads so they can make connections. Hay Net is a popular site for farmers and ranchers who have an emergency need. Individual ads can be posted free of charge by producers who complete a simple online registration form the first time they use the site.



Lafayette County Executive Director (CED) Announced

We would like to announce Lafayette County has selected Annette Colvin as their new CED. Annette is a native of Lafayette County and currently resides on a farm north of Odessa. She served as Benton County's CED for 8 years. We're pleased to keep Annette serving District 4 producers.



Crop Reporting Deadline Reminders

In an effort to reduce the number of crop reporting dates, FSA and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) have aligned their reporting deadlines. These revised dates are being phased in this year and will be fully aligned in 2013.

**Don't
Forget
Planting
Dates !!!**

Year	Crop	FSA Deadline	RMA Deadline
2012	Fall-seeded small grains (harvested in 2012)	July 2, 2012	December 15, 2011
	All other crops & uses	July 16, 2012	
2013	Fall-seeded small grains (harvested in 2013)	December 15, 2012	
	All other crops & uses	July 15, 2013	

Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation Compliance

Landowners and operators are reminded that in order to receive payments from USDA, compliance with Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions are required. Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded of tillage, crop residue, and rotation requirements as specified per their conservation plan.

Producers need to notify their local FSA office prior to any land clearing or drainage projects to insure compliance. Failure to obtain advance approval for any of these situations can result in the loss of eligibility and all Federal payments.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

It's not too soon to be thinking about plans for crop storage this fall. Or, perhaps you could use a place to store your hay crop this summer. The Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program allows producers of eligible commodities to obtain low-interest financing to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000.

A minimum 15 percent down payment is required, with CCC loaning the remaining 85 percent of the net cost of the facility.

Loan terms of 7, 10 or 12 years are available depending on the amount of the loan. Interest rates vary for each loan term and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department. Applications for FSFL must be submitted to the FSA county office that maintains the farm's records.

A FSFL must be approved before any site preparation or construction can begin. The commodities eligible for farm storage facility loans include the usual feed grains, as well as hay, renewable biomass, fruits, vegetables and honey.



Direct And Guaranteed Loans

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting credit for your farm, or you regularly borrow from FSA, direct and guaranteed loans are currently available.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan.

Farm ownership loans or farm operating loans may be obtained as direct loans for a maximum of up to \$300,000. Guaranteed loans have a maximum limit of \$1,214,000. This makes the maximum combination of direct and guaranteed loan indebtedness \$1,514,000.

The one-time loan origination fee charged on FSA guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans is 1.5 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan.

To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

DISTRICT 4 OFFICES

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District Director
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SALINE
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mommarshall-fsa@one.usda.gov

Official Business

Adjusted Gross Income

USDA and the Internal Revenue Service have established an electronic information exchange process for verifying compliance with adjusted gross income (AGI) provisions. Written consent is required from each producer receiving payments for the tax review process. No actual tax data will be included in the report that IRS sends to FSA. This review ensures payments are not issued to producers whose AGI exceeds certain limits.

The limits for 2012 are:

- For commodity and disaster programs: \$500,000 nonfarm or \$1 million farm plus nonfarm average AGI
- For DCP direct payments: \$750,000 farm average AGI
- For conservation programs: \$1 million nonfarm average AGI

Participants in CCC programs subject to average AGI rules must submit form CCC-931, Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification and Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information, to your local county office to avoid interruption of program benefits. These forms may be obtained at your USDA Service Center or online at: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/CCC931.PDF>.

Interest Rates for May, 2012

Farm Operating	1.500%
Farm Ownership	3.500%
Farm Ownership Down Payment	1.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7-yr.	1.500%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 10-yr.	2.125%
Farm Storage Facility Loan 12-yr.	2.375%
Commodity Loans	1.125%

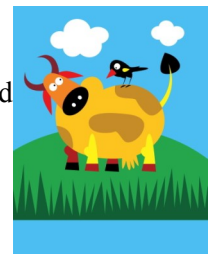
**A complete list of
Annual notifications is
available at
[www.fsa.usda.gov/
Internet/FSA File/
required items
2012.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/required_items_2012.pdf)**

Dates to Remember

May 28	Offices closed - Memorial Day
May 31	2011 Feed grain, soybean & minor oilseeds Loan or LDP Deadline
June 1	DCP/ACRE Sign-up Deadline
June 1	2010 SURE Sign-up Deadline
July 2	Report small grains to FSA
July 4	Offices closed - Independence Day
July 16	Report all other crop uses and report ACRE yields
Ongoing	Continuous CRP sign-up

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) - Haying and Grazing

Missouri landowners can apply now to hay and graze certain CRP contract acres *after* Missouri's primary nesting season for grass-nesting birds ends July 15. Haying and grazing can be completed on a three year rotation, and is subject to a 25% payment reduction on the acres utilized. Producers interested in haying or grazing their CRP should contact their local FSA office to apply. Approval must be received before any haying or grazing begins.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).